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**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH  
OFFICE OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
140 MAIN STREET  
MARLBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS 01752**

**Traffic Commission Minutes**

The Regular Meeting of the Traffic Commission was held as a **virtual meeting** on Wednesday, December 30, 2020 at 10:00 am. Members present: Chairman - Police Chief David Giorgi, Fire Chief Kevin Breen, Commissioner of Public Works Sean Divoll and City Clerk Steve Kerrigan. Also present: City Engineer Tom DiPersio, Assistant City Engineer Tim Collins, Sgt. Zac Attaway from the MPD Traffic Services Unit, City Councilor Katie Robey, City Councilor Mike Ossing, City Councilor Rob Tunnera and local resident Barry Hunter.

Minutes taken by Karen Lambert, MPD Records Clerk.

Chief Giorgi started recording the meeting at 10:00 and began by welcoming everyone and making introductions.

**1- Minutes**

The minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of Wednesday, November 25, 2020.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

TO APPROVE – All in Favor - Accept and Place on File.

**2 - New Business –**

**2a) Use of utility poles to hang City-owned signs.**

At the last meeting Commissioner Divoll asked if there was any language in the City Code about having to obtain permission from utility companies to hang signs on their poles. The Commissioner did some research, however, most of what he could find related to private signs not public signs. He referenced several specific articles regarding issues in other communities with private signs being hung on utility poles (i.e. yard sales

etc.). He feels that the City should probably set an example and not use the utility poles for City-owned signs either, unless there is no other option available. He said that it would be a better look for the City.

Chief Giorgi asked if the Traffic Commission needed to draft language to this effect or if this issue could be handled internally through the DPW. All agreed that the easiest and best solution was to refer this to the DPW to handle.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to Commissioner Divoll and the DPW for enforcement.

### **2b) Request for No Parking Signs on Diconzo Blvd.**

This request came from the Property Manager for Northborough Property Management. The Trustees at Williamsburg Heights, the condo association behind Home Depot, wanted to know if the City could install No Parking signs on Diconzo where it meets Settlers Lane, Pioneer Trail and Bowstring Way. The complaint was that residents can't see around the cars when they are trying to pull out. Chief Giorgi questioned if this was more of an enforcement issue. Are cars parking too close to the intersections?

Tim Collins said that these aren't actual streets but rather named driveways. It seems like they are asking us to ticket their own residents. Maybe this is something they should handle internally through the condo association. He questioned if everyone in the condo association is in agreement with this? There is already a City Ordinance in place which prohibits parking within 20 feet of an intersection. An internal memo from the condo association to their members could be helpful. Mr. Collins also said there are actually two condo associations for the area, one for the inner loop and one for the outer loop. Chief Giorgi advised that he would reach out to the Management Company to advise of the discussion.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to Chief Giorgi to talk to the Management Company.

## **3-Old Business**

### **3b) Request for No Parking Sign – Paquin Drive.**

Mr. Barry Hunter was in attendance for this issue. His property on Paquin Drive borders the local beach entrance. He is requesting "No Seasonal Parking" in the area. They have a lot of issues with beach goers, who are not local residents, parking here in the summer. The City puts up temporary cardboard No Parking signs here in the summer, however, he is asking about the plans for the coming year and would like to see permanent signs installed.

Tim Collins pulled up an example of a sign from Cullinane Drive. This is exactly what Mr. Hunter is requesting. Chief Giorgi said that it was helpful that Mr. Hunter was in attendance as the Traffic Commission was under the impression that he just wanted one No Parking sign next to the beach entrance. The actual request is for "Seasonal No

Parking” on the entire street. Chief Giorgi said that it makes sense to do this. He said that Sgt. Attaway and his officers are the ones who post the temporary signs. They are the same signs that are used on Causeway Street and Lakeshore Drive.

Steve Kerrigan questioned that if we do this on Paquin Drive, are there other streets that should be addressed at the same time? It makes more sense to address the issue as a whole vs. one street at a time. Sgt. Attaway said that they posted the temporary signs up Miles Standish Drive and the 10 driveways onto Simpson Road. They didn’t get all the way up to Paquin Drive. All agreed that it does make sense to look at a specific radius and see what areas are most impacted and sign the whole area. The main factor is how far people want to walk. Tim Collins asked if we were talking about residents parking there or everyone or overflow. Some people who are coming from outside will just park past the signs and walk down. The Chief said if we are doing “No Seasonal Parking” on Paquin Drive we should at least do Miles Standish Drive up to Simpson Road. This would be a good start.

Tim Collins brought up the huge problem this past summer with large crowds at the beach before it was officially open and while the facilities were still closed. Mr. Hunter said that the temporary signs do work the way they are supposed to and are helpful, however, he would like to see something more permanent. Commissioner Divoll said that if we do expand the seasonal no parking area, what happens if a resident has a party over the summer and now has no extra parking in front of their house. Mr. Collins said that this is what he was alluding to before. He also asked if the regulation could be altered to coincide with normal beach hours? Sgt. Attaway suggested dusk to dawn. We just have to make sure residents understand that the signs are being requested. Mr. Collins suggested maybe adding “permitted” parking. It was also suggested that if a resident was planning to have a party, they could call the Police Department and advise as to their address and the date. Sgt. Attaway said that enforcing this would be very difficult. Chief Giorgi suggested using “authorized” or “no beach parking”. He asked if we needed to make a regulation. The Commission can vote on the concept now and Tim Collins can present specific wording for a vote at the next meeting.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING to propose the wording for the seasonal no parking signs.

**3a) Speed and Parking Issues on Church Street.**

- 1) Update on Speed Limit Signs:** Tim Collins was looking for new locations for the Speed Limit Signs. He was reviewing what was needed and where signs would be most appropriate. There are 4 existing Speed Limit signs, however, they are all on utility poles. He is proposing more notice toward East Main Street closer to the Sandwich Shop as there is a lot of traffic coming into the area. It’s better to go from 4 to 6 signs to notify of the 25-mph speed limit. This should be sufficient here and then maybe at the bend in the road by Essex Street. The site distance issue should be all set.
- 2) Update on No Parking Signs:** Tim Collins reviewed the area and made suggestions on where to restrict parking. He focused on the areas of concern rather than the entire street. He will prepare the wording for the regulation for the next meeting. The regulation will clearly specify where parking is restricted.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING for the new sign locations and the wording for the parking restrictions.

**3c) Complaint Concerning No Parking Signs on River Street.**

Chief Giorgi prepared the revised regulations for the parking restrictions. The original regulation which created No Parking on the entire length of River Street, both sides, was repealed. The new regulation which adds the West/South side of River Street to the Schedule of "No Stopping, Standing or Paring Anytime". A second regulation was created to add the East/North Side of River Street to the Schedule of "Parking Prohibited Certain Hours". This would alleviate the problems for neighbors. The regulations were voted on at the last meeting based on Tim Collins' recommendation.

Karen Lambert will forward the amended regulations to Steve Kerrigan for Advertisement.

*Chief Giorgi asked if any of the Councilors present had anything else they would like to discuss.*

Councilor Tunnera was interested in knowing which streets would be included in the 'Seasonal No Parking' area. He specifically asked about Richard Road which is off of Miles Standish Drive. Chief Giorgi said that the area would have to be extended further to include Richard Road. Sgt. Attaway said that we can continue to do the temporary seasonal signs up in that area. If it continues to be a problem, it can be readdressed.

Councilor Ossing mentioned that with regard to the Dicenzo Blvd. issue, it might be a good idea to reach out to Councilor Doucette as he lives in that area. Chief Giorgi advised that he would call him to discuss.

That there being no further business of the Traffic Commission held on this date, the meeting adjourned at 10:41 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Lambert  
Records Clerk  
Marlborough Police Department

**List of documents and other exhibits used at the meeting:**

- City of Marlborough Meeting Posting for Traffic Commission Meeting on Wednesday, December 30, 2020 including meeting agenda.
- Draft of Traffic Commission Minutes from Wednesday, November 25, 2020.
- Email from Chief Giorgi, dated 11/30/20, Re: December Meeting – Reminder to add "Use of utility poles to hang City-owned signs" to the agenda.

-Email from Devin Desautels to the Police Department, dated 12/1/2020, Re: Request for parking limit signs on Diconzo Blvd., including diagram with locations indicated.

-Copy of amended regulations to REPEAL Schedule of “No Stopping, Standing or Parking Anytime” on both sides of River Street and ADD revised regulation to include the West/South Side only.

-Copy of amended regulation to ADD the East/North Side of River Street to the Schedule for “Parking Prohibited Certain Hours”.

**Additional Handouts**

None